



Department of Justice

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GANG LEADER CONVICTED OF DRUG CONSPIRACY

California man "franchised" operation in southern Ohio

CINCINNATI – A United States District Court jury here has convicted Clarence Remble, age 43, of Compton, California of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine, crack cocaine, cocaine, prescription drugs, and marijuana. Remble, identified during the trial as a leader of a California-based gang known as the Dodge City Crips, was found guilty of establishing drug distribution networks in Zanesville, Middletown, Coshocton and Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio and Stanley J. Borgia, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cincinnati Field Office, announced the verdict handed down yesterday before Chief United States District Judge Sandra S. Beckwith.

The jury convicted Remble at the conclusion of a trial that began June 6 and included the testimony of more than 50 witnesses.

A federal grand jury indicted Remble and 18 others in July 2005 following a two-year federal, state and local investigation into criminal activities of members and associates of the Dodge City Crips. The other 18 have pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by a southern Ohio HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) task force. Task force members include the Muskingum County Sheriff's Office, the Zanesville Police Department, the Middletown Police Department, the Ohio State Highway Patrol, the Coshocton County Sheriff's Office and the Columbus Police Department. Federal agencies participating in addition to the FBI are the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

Testimony presented at trial proved that Remble arranged for the transfer of 20 kilograms of cocaine from California that was processed into crack cocaine in southern Ohio. He also arranged for shipments of high-purity methamphetamine known as "ice", prescription drugs Vicodin and Xanax, and bulk quantities of marijuana to drug distribution cells he established in small towns in Ohio.

Testimony indicated that Remble used multiple sets of identification and a number of aliases including "The General," "Smoke", "Butch," and "S2G". Remble communicated with gang members through traditional means such as cell phones, but also via e-mail.

FBI agents arrested Remble in California on July 27, 2005. He has been in custody since his arrest. Judge Beckwith will set a date for sentencing.

“The verdict puts a stop to an organization that was infiltrating small towns with deadly drugs,” Lockhart said. “This successful investigation occurred because of cooperation between federal, local and state officials who worked closely with the public to dismantle the organization.”

Lockhart also commended the citizens who came forward to testify in the trial as well as Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kenneth L. Parker and Timothy Oakley who prosecuted the case.

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